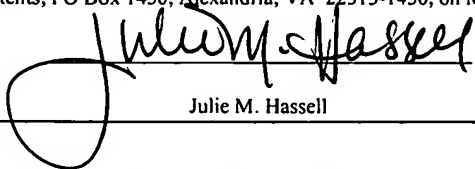




PATENT  
Docket No. 559452000100

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL"**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 4, 2004.

  
Julie M. Hassell

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the application of:

Yutaka TABATA

Serial No.: 10/802,650

Filing Date: March 16, 2204

For: NUT FRAGMENTS AND METHODS  
OF FORMING NUT FRAGMENTS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicant submits for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Pursuant to the USPTO notice dated July 11, 2003, waiving the requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(i) to provide copies of U.S. Patents and U.S. Published Applications, copies of those references are not submitted. Copy of the foreign document is submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record in the application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☐ With the application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114. However, if applicable, a certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) has been provided.
- ☒ Within three months of the application filing date or before mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required. However, if applicable, a certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) has been provided.
- ☐ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
  - ☐ A fee is required. A check in the amount of \_\_\_ is enclosed.
  - ☐ A fee is required. Accordingly, a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17) is attached to this submission in duplicate.
  - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above; accordingly; no fee is believed to be due.
- ☐ After mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee.
  - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above and a check in the amount of \_\_\_ is enclosed.
  - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above and a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17 is attached to this submission in duplicate.)

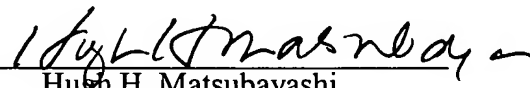
Applicant would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p)) is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing 559452000100. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: May 4, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Hugh H. Matsubayashi  
Registration No. 43,779

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Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

MAY 06 2004

PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK

Docket Number 559452000100

Application Number 10/802,650

Applicant

Yutaka TABATA

Filing Date March 16, 2004

Group Art Unit Not Yet Assigned

Mailing Date May 4, 2004

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	1.	05/01/2001	6,224,932	Stahmann et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation YES NO
	2.	10/17/2001	EP 1 145 653	Europe			

## OTHER DOCUMENTS

(including author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Title

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not the citation conforms with MPEP 609. Draw a line through the citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

MAY 06 2004

PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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# TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

6 + 1 ref.

Application Number	10/802,650
Filing Date	March 16, 2004
First Named Inventor	Yutaka TABATA
Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	559452000100

## ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (3 pages) <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Form PTO-1449 + duplicate copy (2 pages)</li> <li>• One (1) Reference</li> <li>• Return postcard</li> </ul>
<div>Remarks</div>		

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP (Customer No. 25226) Hugh H. Matsubayashi - 43,779
Signature	<i>Hugh H. Matsubayashi</i>
Date	May 4, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: May 4, 2004

Signature: *Julie M. Hassell* (Julie M. Hassell)